

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00  
ACDA-07 ERDA-05 OES-07 EUR-12 /100 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:DKUX  
APPROVED BY D:DEPUTY SECRETARY  
NEA:ADUBS

-----089513 162049Z /63

R 161615Z JUL 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166511

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJECT: CALL BY INDIAN AMBASSADOR ON DEPUTY SECRETARY

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR SINGH AND DEPUTY SECRETARY AGREED THAT RELATIONS WERE CURRENTLY IN HAPPY STATE AND EXPRESSED INTEREST OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS IN MAINTAINING FORWARD MOMENTUM. GOI WELCOMED DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT AND HOPED SECRETARY WOULD ALSO COME LATER IN THE YEAR. ON PAKISTAN, BOTH EXPRESSED HOPE FOR EARLY ELECTIONS. SINGH EXPRESSED INDIAN THANKS ON TARAPUR AND URGED U.S. SUPPORT FOR MAINTAINING INDIAN SHARE OF IDA LOANS AT 40 PER CENT. AT SINGH'S REQUEST, DEPUTY SECRETARY GAVE RUNDOWN ON U.S.-SOVIET INDIAN OCEAN TALKS. OPENING ROUND SUGGESTED THAT  
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STABILIZATION OF FORCE LEVELS SEEMED POSSIBLE CURRENT GOAL.  
END SUMMARY.

2. BILATERAL RELATIONS. BOTH THE AMBASSADOR AND THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AGREED THAT WE SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESENT HAPPY STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS TO WORK TOWARD FURTHER CONCRETE IMPROVEMENT. AMBASSADOR SINGH

SAID THAT NEW DELHI WAS MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT. HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING MOMENTUM THAT HAD BEEN GENERATED BY THE WARM EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER.

FOR THIS REASON, DELHI ESPECIALLY HOPED THAT THE SECRETARY WOULD BE ABLE TO COME LATER IN THE FALL FOR MORE EXTENDED BILATERAL TALKS AND THE JOINT COMMISSION MEETING.

3. PAKISTAN. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY NOTED THAT WHILE THE U.S. WAS AVOIDING PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE SITUATION THERE, WE VERY MUCH HOPED THAT GENERAL ZIA WOULD HOLD ELECTIONS TO PERMIT THE RETURN OF CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. KEWAL SINGH INDICATED THAT THIS WAS SIMILAR TO THE OFFICIAL INDIAN POSITION. INDIA THOUGHT DEMOCRACY IN PAKISTAN WOULD BE GOOD FOR THE SUBCONTINENT AND WAS CAREFUL TO AVOID ANYTHING THAT MIGHT UPSET EVENTS. SO FAR THE INDIANS SAW NO INDICATION THAT GENERAL ZIA WANTED TO STAY IN POWER.

4. NUCLEAR. KEWAL SINGH EXPRESSED INDIAN APPRECIATION FOR USG EFFORTS ON TARAPUR FUEL. HE THOUGHT THAT THE SHIPMENT IMPROVED THE ATMOSPHERE FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON OTHER NUCLEAR ISSUES WHICH WOULD START WITH DR. NYE'S VISIT IN EARLY AUGUST.

5. IDA V. KEWAL SINGH RAISED THE UPCOMING WORLD BANK CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSIDERATION OF THE INDIAN 40 PER CENT SHARE OF IDA LOANS AND ASKED FOR U.S. SUPPORT. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID THAT WE WOULD DO SO AND EXPRESSED HOPE FOR EARLY CONGRESSIONAL FUNDING OF IDA.

6. INDIAN OCEAN. THE AMBASSADOR ASKED FOR A RUNDOWN ON THE RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS ON THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID THAT THESE WERE REALLY PRELIMINARY IN NATURE WITH BOTH SIDES TRYING TO ESTABLISH THE PARAMETERS. THE DISCUSSIONS SUGGESTED THAT FOR THE PRESENT WE AND THE SOVIETS COULD PERHAPS FIND A BASIS FOR STABILIZING FORCE LEVELS IN ORDER THAT THE AREA NOT BECOME AN ARENA FOR GREAT POWER COMPETITION. THIS WOULD BE OUR INITIAL GOAL. ONCE FORCE STABILIZATION IS ACHIEVED, WE MIGHT THEN BE ABLE TO GO ON TO WORK FOR ACTUAL REDUCTION IN FORCE LEVELS. KEWAL SINGH NOTED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS ON THE INDIAN OCEAN HAD BEEN A "MATTER OF JOY" TO LITTORAL STATES WHO HOPED FOR EFFORTS IN

THIS DIRECTION.

7. BILATERAL AID. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY NOTED THAT THE

US WAS READY TO START TALKS ON A RESUMPTION OF BILATERAL  
LENDING IF INDIA WISHED. KEWAL SINGH SAID THIS WAS  
APPRECIATED AS GESTURE OF US GOODWILL. HE REGRETTED  
THAT GESTURE WAS BLURRED BY CRITICISM OF INDIA IN  
HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT. THIS HAD GIVEN AMMUNITION FOR  
CRITICS OF DESAI GOVERNMENT AND CREATED POLITICAL  
PROBLEMS IN INDIA. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009